Office of the City Manager Letter to Commission No. 078-200



Date: April 2, 2004

To:

Mayor David Dermer and

Members of the City Commission

From:

Jorge M. Gonzalez

City Manager

Subject:

RESERVE OFFICER PROGRAM

This Letter to the City Commission is in response to questions that were raised regarding the Police Department's Reserve Officer Program.

The Police Department's Reserve Officer Program has been modified to place more certified police officers on the streets. Previously, the reserve officers were placed in assignments in both the Administrative and Operations Bureaus. This has been changed to working only in the Operations Bureau (in the Patrol and Criminal Investigations Divisions). As of this date, there are a total of 16 officers assigned to the Operations Bureau, 13 reserve officers reporting to the Patrol Division and 3 reserve officers assigned to the Criminal Investigations Division. The majority of the reserve officers are retired Miami Beach police officers who are still interested in serving their community. The remaining reserve officers work in the private sector, serving in their off-duty hours to supplement the workforce of the Miami Beach Police Department. In addition, this program is used to enhance the Police Department's workforce during special events such as the FTAA and Memorial Day weekend.

The reserve officers are fully certified police officers who are required to work a minimum of 10 hours a month and receive a \$1.00 per year for remuneration. They maintain their police certification through attending State required classes given by the Police Department's Training Unit.

The program is planning to expand to include 38 police reserve officers. Currently, there are three certified officers in the background process and advertising will be done to recruit additional certified officers for the program.

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